Remarks

The forgoing amendment has been made after a careful review of the present application, the references of records, and the Office Action dated October 4, 2005. In the Office Action, the examiner raised some objections to the drawings that relate to claims. Claims 1 through 3 were rejected under USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Dalebout. Claims 4 and 5 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

In the forgoing amendment the applicant has amended the drawings to overcome the examiners' objections relating thereto. Claims 4 and 5, which were indicated as allowable have been canceled, however, new claims 6 and 7 have been added with new claim 6 containing the basic subject matter of former claim 4 and new claim 7 containing the basic subject matter of former claim 5. New claims 6 and 7 have minor differences from the original claims 4 and 5, however, it is submitted that the new claims contain all the restrictions of claims 4 and 5.

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly recite the invention and in particular, recite the fact that the body has a gripping portion and that when the device of the invention is fitted over the handle of a walking member, the user of the walking member will grip the gripping portion of the device to control the walking member. This is described in the specification on page 4 line 19 to page 5 line 8.

The applicant hereby traverses the rejection of amended claim 1 and claims 2 and 3 as being anticipated by Dalebout. The Dalebout reference discloses a flashlight having a clamp that is attachable to the handlebar of a bicycle. The examiner asserts that the flashlight of Dalebout has a portion that is cylindrical and can be readily gripped

by the human hand. This is undoubtedly so, however, the true intent of the present invention is to provide a gripping handle for fitting over the tubular handle of a walking member, such as a cane, with a flashlight built into the gripping handle of the invention. Amended claim 1 clearly recites that the device includes a body "sized to fit over said handle of said walking member gripped by a user of said walking member to control said walking member...." This is different from the flashlight assembly disclosed by Dalebout. The Dalebout device is intended to be attached to the handlebar of a bicycle or some other vehicle, but the tubular housing that surrounds the batteries of the Dalebout flashlight is not intended to be gripped by the bicycle rider to control the bicycle. The advantages are that the user of the cane does not have to release his grip upon the cane handle to actuate the flashlight because the flashlight is integrated into the handle that he is gripping.

Although two independent claims have been added to the application, the original application contained only one independent claim and therefore no additional fees should be required.

In view of the forgoing, the applicant submits that all the claims of the present application are now in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Drawing Amendments

Please amend the drawings as shown in red on the attached page.



